implementation schedule. Besides, it was also recommended that a new regulation may be brought in SOLAS, in case it was not found possible to bring in the seafarers identify document requirement through a Protocol to ILO Convention 108.

(e) Indian delegation would participate in the discussions in various Committees of IMO on these issues and project India's views taking into account India's security concerns and the interests of Indian seafarers.

Constitutional amendment for reservation for SCs/STs in private sector

2319. SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that under the present laws the existing system of reservation for recruitment of SC/ST candidates in PSUs will become null and void once they are privatized.

(b) if so, whether Government have done any study on the impact of such privatization on SC/ST candidates in securing professional opportunities;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) whether Government would consider a constitutional amendment to extend reservations for SCs/STs even in the case of recruitment in private sector?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) With a view to safeguard interest of Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes, a 'best endavour' clause is being incorporated in the agreement signed in case of disinvestments to persuade the new management.

(b) to (d) The matter is being reviewed in consultation with the concerned Ministries/Departments.

(e) Reservation in private sector has been examined in consultation with the representatives of private sector *viz.* CII, FICCI, ASSOCHAM, WASE. While they are not in favour of reservation in private sector, they have indicated support for empowerment of disadvantaged groups by way of promoting human capital formation and entrepreneurship.

Disability in various States

2320. SHRI MAN MOHAN SAMAL: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some States have more percentage of disability then others;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government have studied the categories of disability occurrence in various States during the last three years; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYA NARAYAN JATIYA): (a) and (b) Sample survey conducted by the Nationl Sample Survey Organization (NSSO) in 1991 indicates inter-state variations in the prevalence rate of disabilities. This is due to a number of factors including variations in availability of health facilities, endemic diseases, literacy status.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.